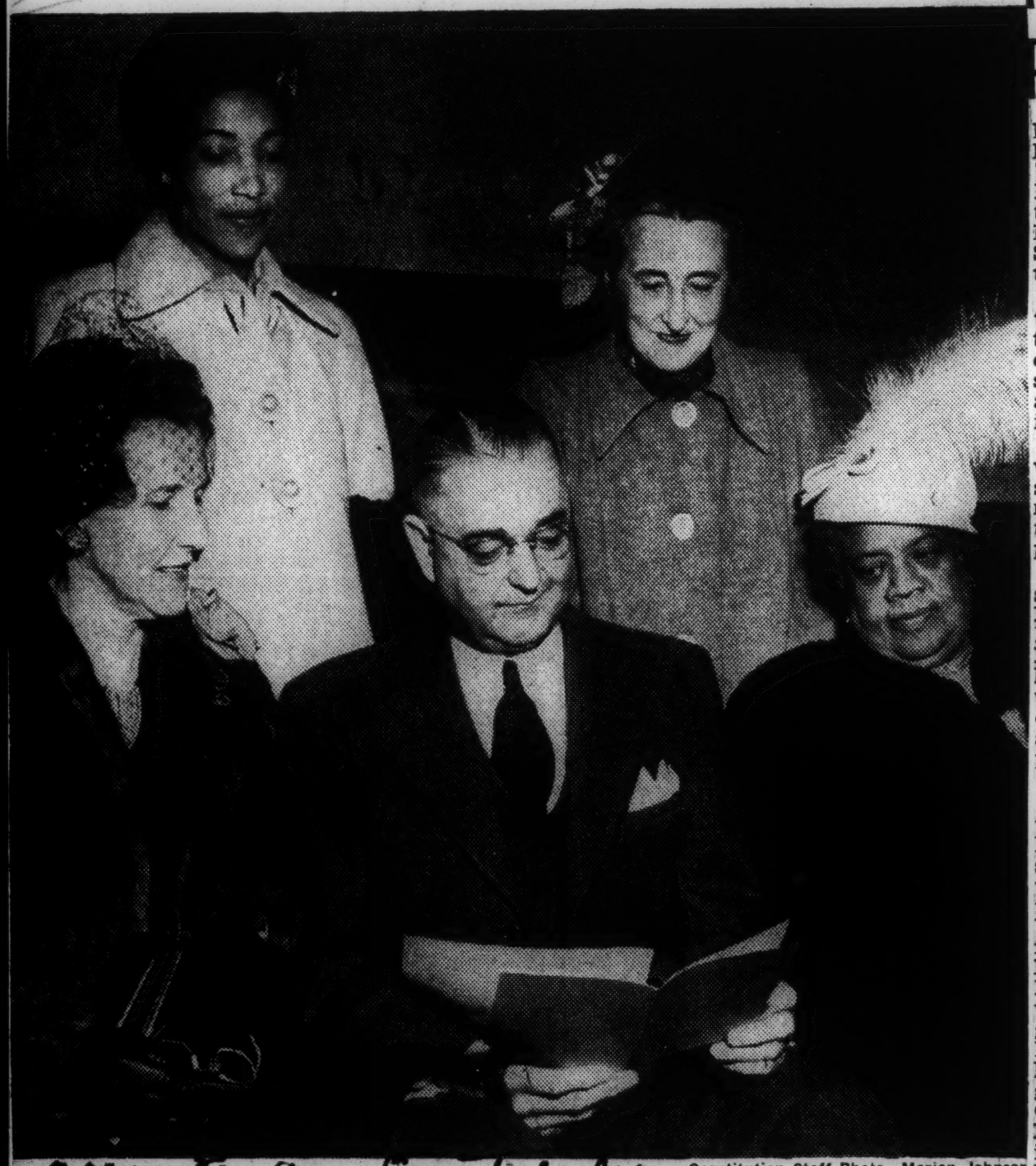

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution Constitution Staff Photo—Marion Johnson

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEGRO YWCA—Ceremonies were held yesterday for the ground-breaking for the building soon to be erected for the Phyllis Wheatley Branch, YWCA. Shown at the meeting are, seated, left to right: Mrs. I. J. Phillips, Atlanta YW Board Director; Ernest Brewer, Mayor Hartsfield's Secretary; Mrs. J. S. Flipper, Chairman, Board of Managers, Phyllis Wheatley Branch. Standing, left and right: Mrs. A. Louise Taylor, Executive Director, Phyllis Wheatley Branch, and Mrs. Mary Kate Duskin, Executive Director of the Atlanta YWCA

Miss Dorothy Height Named to Personnel Department of YWCA

NEW YORK—Miss Harrison S. Elliott, general secretary of the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association, New York City, has announced the appointment of Miss Dorothy Height to the Department of Study, Personnel and Training of the national YWCA.

Miss Height was formerly interracial education secretary in the Program Services department of the National Board where she specialized in development of activities to promote understanding among youth of all races.

In her new position, Miss Height will carry responsibility for counseling with the local staff of community associations and advise them on personnel and training problems and methods.

For several summers, she has served on the faculty of Ferry Hall, training school for YWCA leadership in Lake Forest, Ill. Last summer at that school she headed a series of program skills, workshops in which YWCA leaders studied modern dance, arts and crafts, music, dramatics and physical education.

Formerly in Washington

Miss Height joined the staff of the National Board in 1944, after long service to YWCA's and other social work agencies. From 1939 to 1944, she was executive secretary of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, in Washington, D.C., and from 1936 to 1939, director of the Emma Ransom House—Harlem Branch, in New York City. She was also, in 1937, a youth delegate to the World Conference of Life and Work in Oxford, England, and in 1939, a YWCA delegate to the World Conference of Christian Youth, in Amsterdam, Holland. Her previous experience in social work was with the New York City Department of Welfare and with the Brooklyn, N.Y., Brownsville Community Center, operated by the Brooklyn Federation of Churches.

A native of Pittsburgh, Miss Height received a master's degree at New York University, and has had further study at the New York School of Social Work. She is national president of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Will Start YW Branch For Negroes

The Young Women's Christian Association will break ground for its new Phyllis Wheatley Negro YWCA structure Sunday afternoon on the building site at the intersection of Hunter, Tattnall and Walnut Streets.

Mrs. I. J. Phillips, President of the Atlanta YWCA, announced yesterday that Concrete Builders, Inc., have been awarded the contract for the two-story building, designed by Shutze and Armistead.

The Negro branch will be constructed before the new Central YWCA building because of the pressing need for more adequate space to carry on the program of education, recreation and housing for Negro girls and women.

Last year the Branch served more than 5,000 in the Negro communities, under the leadership of Mrs. A. Louise Taylor, executive director. The new building will enable the organization to double its service.

The Negro branch began its work in Atlanta in 1920, and since 1925 it has operated from a small building at 218 Boulevard, N. E.

Mrs. J. L. Flipper will be Chairman of the ground-breaking ceremony with commentaries by Dr. Rufus A. Clement, President, Atlanta University; the Rev. William H. Borders, Pastor, Wheat Street Baptist Church; Miss Florence Read, President, Spelman College; Mrs. Philipps, Dr. J. P. Brawley, President, Clark College; Ernest Brewer, representing Mayor Hartsfield; Mrs. George A. Towns, former Chairman, Committee of Management; Bishop Richard R. Wright, and Dr. H. V. Richardson, President, Gammon Theological Seminary.

Mrs. Granger Hansell and Hal Dumas have served as co-chairmen for the YWCA Building Fund.

Local Citizens Laud Women For Leadership

BY ALICE H. WASHINGTON

The hands that helped to "rock the cradle" when the Phylli Wheatley Branch of the YWCA was in its infancy, were converted to another use Sunday, that of breaking ground for a new YWCA structure, costing more than $147,000, to be erected at Walnut Tatnall and Hunter Streets. Mrs. George A. Towns, past chairman of the board of managers, because of her faithful and long standing service, was accorded this significant honor.

Murky skies and heavy fog were not enough to smother the spirits of some five hundred local citizens who assembled at the Morris Brown College gymnasium to witness the ceremonial, for they, in retrospect viewed the struggles of Atlanta's women with sympathetic understanding, and rejoiced with them in the arrival of a new day.

Mrs. J. S. Flipper, chairman of the board of managers, presiding over the history making period, briefly recounted the purposes of the Young Women's Christian Association. Invocation was offered by Dr. H. V. Richardson, president, Gammon Theological Seminary.

CONGRATULATIONS OFFERED

In a message of congratulations Dr. Rufus Clement, president, Atlanta University said, "Atlanta University is happy to have had a part in this endeavor, for the triangle of land upon which it is to be built was deeded to the YWCA by the school." He continued. "We join with you and are looking with you for service to the community.

Miss Florence M. Read, president, Spelman College, termed herself "a witness to an important step and wished the Phyllis Wheatley Branch goodwill and Godspeed as you go forward with your program."

Dr. William Holmes Borders, pastor, Wheat Street Baptist Church, speaking as a citizen offered felicitations and hopes for future progress in the statement "God bless this achievement and grant that more women of the community be bound together to do an even greater job." He commented that Miss Irene Harris, a former executive director of the branch, had built a "firm foundation" upon which Mrs. A. Louise Taylor, present director, was about to build a "super structure."

Terming the occasion an "auspicious one," Dr. James P. Brawley in offering personal congratulations and those of Clark College, the institution which he heads, declared the YWCA an essential organization and lauded it for its job of "building better young people". Injecting a note of humor, the administrator warned that "in building you'll have headaches, but the structure of brick and stone will be worth it."

Expressions of gratitude were made by Mrs. I. J. Phillips, president of the Atlanta YWCA "To all who had a part in making this moment possible." We rejoice in it, she continued, and all it means to the connection."

MAYOR REPRESENTED

Mrs. Granger Hansel, of the Y W. C. A. board of trustees informed the group that plans were drawn ten years ago, a successful fund raising drive held five years ago, but wartime conditions delayed actual building. She introduced Ernest Brewer, Executive secretary to Mayor William B. Hartsfield, who was unable to attend due to out of town duties.

Mr. Brewer read a letter from His Hon. the Mayor, which said in part "We commend those of you who have labored so long and so hard for this hour, and are happy to congratulate you on behalf of the City of Atlanta." Mr. Brewer highlighted his address by calling the new building "an investment which will offer unlimited returns."

An impressive candle lighting ceremony was led by Anna Bell, Senior Y. Teen, Washington High School, as members of the YWCA and staff assistants of Central and Phyliss Wheatley Branches formed a triangle. Mrs. A. L. Taylor and Mrs. Mary Kate Duskin, executive director of Central Branch, led the ritual.

Miss Dorothy Rose, seventh grader of E. R. Carter School, representing the "young life of the Y" presented Mrs. Towns the spade for breaking the earth and charged her to perform the sacred duty accorded her because of her unselfish service and devotion to the cause.

This charge Mrs. Towns accepted by saying "I accept with pride the duty with which I am charged" and admonished the young "Y" members present "to remember this occasion and prepare yourselves for future leadership."

Following the indoor exercises the ground was broken, and the first clods placed in a carved chest entrusted to Mrs. Towns for future placement in the archives of the new building. This presentation was made by Miss Rosalie Raglin, Freshman student, Spelman College representing the student division of the Y. W. C. A.

Warren Armistead, architect and H. D. Humphries, representing the construction company, assisted in the actual ground breaking.

Prayer and Benediction were offered by Bishop Richard R. Wright. Music was presented by the Chariot Wheels Ensemble and male quartet and the David T. Howard School band.

Paul E. X. Brown, of radio station WERD introduced the program.

2,000 Delegates at YW Session

Afro-American
Baltimore Md
Dec 3-19-49

SAN FRANCISCO (ANP)— An upswing in interracial activity within the Young Women's Christian Association was reported here last week before a meeting of 2,000 delegates at the 18th National YWCA convention in the Civic auditorium here.

Making the report was Miss Myra Smith of the executive program subject department.

Her report showed that in 1948 there were 132 interracial boards as contrasted to 103 in 1945 and 74 in 1942. In the southern section of the country, the rate of change was higher than in the country as a whole. The south had three boards in 1942; five in 1945; and 14 in 1948.

Dat-3-19-49

"While we value this data," she said, "we know full well that it is the spirit behind the practices that really counts. People may be together in increasing numbers, but are they comfortable and at home with each other?

"Do they feel free to discuss, to take initiative, to carry responsibility side by side and on the same terms? We know, of course, that no human beings feel fully acquainted and at home with others whom they meet only once a year at an annual meeting or even once a month at a board meeting. It doesn't happen with people of the same race; it will not happen with people of different racial origins. It is volume of experience that counts.

Forget Color

"People who really work together will learn to forget skin color and other superficial differences, to develop real acquaintance in the common task."

She said that in 1941 Colored women and girls made up 8.6 per cent of the educational-recreational constituency, a figure which went consistently up to 9.8 in 1945. It dropped to 8.8 in 1946 and to 8.6 in 1947.

"This decrease is in part accounted for by a sharp decline in those enrolled for educational activities and may be correlated with a decrease in spending power."

In another session, Dr. John B. Condliffe, professor of economics at the University of California, Berkley, told delegates that "if the world is going to achieve higher living levels, women will have to be educated to the social, political and economic equals of men."

Sex Discrimination

He pointed out that "where there is a population problem, a pitiless pressure of numbers upon limited resources and limited productive capacity, women are treated as an inferior sex, limited in their occupations and interests. What countries of backward ecomonic development and relentless population pressures need even more than technical assistance or capital, is the training of their young womanhood.

Dat-3-19-49

"Wherever you find poverty, you will find also that a large section of the community has been deprived of its unalienable rights."

Mrs. Maurice T. Moore, chairman of the foreign division of the national board, reported a large share of the money alloted for reconstruction work overseas has been used to reopen the YWCA doors in the Far East. Another portion was used to give rest and travel to war-weary "Y" workers of central Europe and England, and a smaller sum was contributed to promote study for foreign workers in the U.S. Still, another small amount was used for mother, paint, and bricks for make-shift buildings in the war-torn country, Certain amounts were spent for feeding stations in Naples and for conducting rural demonstration centers in China.

YW Confab Takes Firm-Rights View

Chicago Defender
Chicago Ill

(Defender California Bureau)

SAN FRANCISCO — Increased interracial activity in the Young Women's Christian Association, with the South taking the lead, was reported to the 18th National YWCA Convention here last week and keynoted the sessions attended by 2,000 delegates.

According to Miss Myra Smith of the executive program department, there were 132 interracial boards in 1948, contrasted with 103 in 1945, and only 74 in 1942. The South showed the greatest gain, with three boards in 1942 increasing to five in 1945, and 14 last year, she reported.

The convention was offered a three-year program for improved civil rights, minority group and public health work, and international relations by Mrs. Alfred E. Mudge of Brooklyn, chairman of the Public Affairs Committee. "There is no time for apathy in this atomic age; the issues are too great," Mrs. Mudge said in delivering her report.

Backs UN Charter

One aspect of the program, which was taken up for study by 10 convention groups, was to put into practice, the provisions of the United Nations declaration of human rights. The declaration goes beyond the U. S. Constitution in outlining human freedoms and rights.

Under civil liberties, the YWCA convention was asked to demand a permanent civil rights commission, a joint congressional committee on rights, and elevation of the civil rights section of the Justice Department to full division status.

In another session, Dr. John B. Condliffe, professor of economics at the University of California, Berkley, told delegates, that "if the world is going to achieve higher living levels, women will have to be educated to the social, political and economic equals of men."

Training a Must

He pointed out that "wherever there is a population problem, a pitiless pressure of numbers upon limited resources and limited productive capacity, women are treated as an inferior sex, limited in their occupations and interests. What countries of backward economic development and relentless population pressures need even more than technical assistance or capital, is the training of their young womanhood.

"Wherever you find poverty, you will find also that a large section of the community has been deprived of its unalienable rights," he said.

Miss Lucretia C. Wright Tells Of Macon YWCA Work, Program

Daily World
Atlanta Ga

Since the second week in last June, the Lucy C. Laney Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association has gradually become a part of the Macon community thinking. And the gradually developing program is becoming integrated into the whole program pattern.

Thu 5-19-49

We were quite anxious to begin with direct program planning, thus we did not begin where we probably should have — the Branch Committee. We began with direct organization of interest groups. The Collegiate club (students who were home on vacation from various colleges) gave an excellent start. Then Miss Elizabeth Lee recruited a group and organized a Bible class that demonstrated the keenest interest. Mrs. Laura Lowe began bringing a group of the most delightful children on Friday afternoons; now most of them have gone into the Brownie clubs, etc. Cooperation from the various city schools was most commendable. At Ballard, Carver, Hudson and Unionville more than 200 Y-Teens formed clubs and since then they have been the nucleus around which the public YW programs have been formed. The faculty members have given excellent support; they voluntarily gave their services as sponsors for the clubs.

Not only have the children's department and the Y-Teen division been developed, but also the young adult department has been organized with Mrs. B. W. Rice doing a remarkable piece of work with a sewing class that put on a display that attracted a large number of Maconites. Yes, the business, professional, and industrial groups, with Mrs. Estelle B. Wells as acting president, have persistently held out for a civic project to help support. The B. P. and I. club (Cosmopolitan) has pledged support-financial-to the Fulton Baptist church day nursery, under the humanly direction of Mrs. Mamie Mack.

Now, we are happy to announce that the various communities, the real lifeblood of the Branch program are beginning to function in a very fine way. This means an enriched YW program to offer the community. Just recently the membership, house and hospitality committees sponsored a program at which an inspiring, informing and challenging report was given on the recently held National YW Convention, San Francisco. This was the first of a series of similar meetings for the members and friends. We hope to have the entire YWCA constituency know something of the structure and function of the program of the Young Women's Christian Association, an association belonging to the entire community.

We are in need of much more space than is available for use at the Branch; yet, school, civic and various "out-side" groups take advantage of the accommodations and spend the most delightful hours at the building. The furniture is attractive and durable. It is our sincere wish to keep all furniture intact, inspite of the heavy debt the YWCA incurred several years ago as the purchase was made from the USO. To date, individuals and groups — church, civic and social have responded in a most remarkable way to our plea for financial assistance.

One of the most gratifying aspects of the program planning has been the unrelenting cooperation demonstrated by the citizens of Macon — both Negro and white. Already, Miss Lottie Price, a progressive city school principal, has informed us of her plans to have assimilated into her program planning for the next school year a certain phase of the YW objective — child care with special emphasis on the emotional, psychological mental and health welfare of our younger citizens.

The work in Macon has proved to be a most gratifying and enriching experience with a long range life challenge!

RECORD ATTENDANCE OF RACE YWCA LEADERS AT SAN FRANCISCO

Los Angeles Sentinel
Los Angeles Calif
3-19-49

The 18th national convention of the Young Women's Christian Association, which meets every three years, indicated the trend women of this country will take in their burgeoning national leadership with the passage in San Francisco last week of a Public Affairs Program, which gives precedence to the achievement of civil liberties and democratic rights for all.

Negro YWCA leaders in the organization's history, the convention (as) guaranteed by the Constitution; "an immigration policy made it mandatory upon all of the Bill of Rights" . . . regardless of race, color, sex, nation or political opinion."

Specific "instruments to achieve the goal" for which the 2000 delegates agreed to fight were: permanent FEPC, free vote (without the poll tax); a federal anti-lynching law; unsegregated armed forces; unsegregated interstate transportation; "an immigration policy based not only on our own needs, but on human welfare;" an un-

With the largest attendance of YWCA's 1049 branches to work for;

segregated national capital; and federal funds without racial discrimination.

In its mandate, the Y said it has "worked on the assumption that our contribution to a world order of justice and equality depended upon our accomplishments in community relations in the United States.

"We have affirmed that the integrity of our democracy is tested by its treatment of all minorities."

The convention, which was held in the San Francisco Civic Auditorium was attended by approximately 150 Negro women from all parts of the country. The Los Angeles delegation, largest in attendance, included approximately 30 Negroes. These represented the Eastside community's Woodlawn branch, but also the membership at large, which includes Negroes in interracial branches throughout the city.

Leading daily sessions of the convention from Tuesday through Friday was Dr. Howard Thurman, of San Francisco, co-pastor (Negro) of the Fellowship Church. His wife, Mrs. Sue Bailey Thurman, was an official delegate from the San Francisco YWCA.

Among the most prominent Negroes attending was Miss Dorothy Height, of New York, who is a member of the staff of the national board. Also attending were: Mrs. Cecilie Cabaniss Saunders, retired YWCA executive who is credited with having built the Emma Renson House and YWCA of New York; also Mrs. Eunice Hunton Carter, former assistant District Attorney of New York; Mrs. Beulah Whitby, sociology professor at Wayne University, Detroit; Mrs. Winona Logan, of New York; Miss Annabelle Sawyer, of Oklahoma City; Mrs. Constance Heslip, of Toledo; Mrs. Margaret Jackson, of Evanston, Ill.; Mrs. Wenonah Bond Logan of New York; Mrs. George West, of Pittsburgh; Miss Myra Smith, of the national staff, of New York, and others.

These women participated in the discussions, and were notable for their active interest in the general YWCA program, not just the civil rights discussion.

In the local delegation, Mrs. Zeresh Eberhardt, who attended as area council chairman of the West Coast and as a delegate from Woodlawn's Business and Professional Girl's Club, was elected to the national council for three years.

Name Dorothy Height To Nat'l YW Board

Mrs. Harrison S. Elliott, general secretary of the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association, New York City, has announced the appointment of Miss Dorothy Height to the Department of Study, Personnel and Training of the national YWCA.

Miss Height was formerly interracial education secretary in the Program Subjects department of the National Board where she specialized in development of activities to promote understanding among youth of all races.

In her new position Miss Height will carry responsibility for counseling with the local staff of Community Associations and advise them on personnel and training problems and methods.

For several summers she has served on the faculty of Ferry Hall, training school for YWCA leadership in Lake Forest, Ill. Last summer at that school she headed a series of program skills workshops in which YWCA leaders studied modern dance, arts and crafts, music, dramatics and physical education.

Miss Height joined the staff of the National Board in 1944, after long service to YWCA's and other social work agencies. From 1939 to 1944 she was executive secretary of Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, in Washington, D. C., from 1936 to 1939 director of the Emma Ranson House-Harlem Branch, in New York City. She was also, in 1937, a youth delegate to the World Conference of Life and Work in Oxford, England, and in 1939 a YWCA delegate to the World Conference of Christian Youth, in Amsterdam, Holland. Her previous experience in social work was with the New York City Department of Welfare and with the Brooklyn, N. Y., Brownsville Community Center, operated by the Brooklyn Federation of churches.

A native of Pittsburgh, Miss Height received a master's degree at New York University and has had further study at the New York School of Social Work. She is national president of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

MISS HEIGHT

Worthy Of Praise

It was last year, as we recall, when young white women from Nashville, in attendance at a national convention of YWCA workers in a Northern city, let it be known that they could not put fully into practice the principles of Christianity which the Young Women's Christian Association espouses.

According to the press report, the national convention wanted to go on record in favor of YWCA workers meeting together and working together without regard to race.

The news report stated that the Nashville delegates, while expressing their personal approval of the idea, nevertheless frankly stated it could not be carried out in Nashville; that those responsible for raising funds in Nashville would not consent to support YWCA work that did not keep in force the established racial segregation rules .

The Nashville delegates at least were frank and honest. They would not sit idly and see the adoption of a YWCA policy espousing equality among young Christian women when they knew they could not return home and put the national YWCA policy into operation, without losing financial support.

It would seem that local educators who go off to these big educational meetings up North ought to be equally as alert and frank as were these young Christian women who attended their YWCA national convention. There is no need for our educators underwriting a "Zeal for Democracy" program while on Northern soil when they are aware of the fact that when they return they must agree to a counterfeit of the real thing here at home.

The national sponsors of "Zeal for Democracy" are bound to be greatly amused at the plan of whipping up "Zeal for Democracy' that it was necessary to adopt and carry cut in Nashville on February 18. We think it was commendable upon the part of local principals and teachers of Nashvilles colored schools that they did not flatter themselves with a compliment of having taken part in a realistic program that espoused "Zeal for American Democracy' and so stated in resolutions adopted at the close of the meeting. They could not do otherwise and pose as teachers of democracy with any hope of convincing the public that they are intelligent and honest.

3,000,000 Women, Girls To Join In Nat'l Y Observance

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Three million women and girls in the U. S. will join in the observance of the second annual National YWCA week, which will open on Sunday, April 24. The theme of the week is "YWCA—Your Window to the World."

Mrs. Harrison S. Elliott, general secretary of the national board of the Young Women's Christian associations will speak at the worship service to be held at its headquarters and simultaneous services will be held in YWCA's throughout the country.

Throughout the week health days, open house, forums on current events, luncheons and dinners in YWCA's of the country will mark the occasion, in demonstrating how the YWCA is "Y our Window to the World" of happier personal living, broadened social sensitivity, greater international understanding and more profound spiritual insights.

There are YWCA's today in 440 towns and cities, on 609 college and university campuses and some form of work in 1,550 villages and rural areas. To these centers come young business and professional women, girls employed in factories and households and on the farms.

The YWCA, an international Christian movement active in 69 lands today, was founded in England in 1855, and in this country in 1858.

Hundreds of outstanding Negro women serve as volunteers and staff members in the YWCA in the U. S., and contribute much to the vitality of the movement in this country.

SUMMER RESORT FOR CITY'S BOYS

The Pine Street YMCA's Camp River Cliff, located 82 miles from St. Louis will celebrate its silver anniversary. The camp will open June 20. As in the past, the first sixty days will be given over to boys camping. It will be divided into six 10-day periods. More than 20,000 boys have enjoyed glorious summer vacations in the out-of-doors Boys Dream Land in the last 24 years.

There has been tremendous improvements in the camp facilities since Leon Stewart opened the camp in 1924. Most siginificant of the improvements have been cabins. Greatly expanding the cabins capacity, drilling of 160 feet well and the installation of a jet pump which insures an abundant quantity of pure water at all times, the erection in 1940 of a new rock dining lodge which contains a modern and equipped kitchen, the building of two stone toilets and shower buildings brought to the camp sanitary facilities comparable to those in city life.

Along with the development in physical facilities has gone an enrichment of the camp program developed through the years by such men as: James E. Cook, Leon Stewart, O. O. Morris, Milton Carter, Father D. R. Clark, A. S. Jackson and J. Arthur Turner.

Many prominent camp authorities have appraised Camp River Cliff as one of the best camps for boys in the nation.

The citizens of St. Louis certainly are justified in being proud of this enterprise.

YWCA Consultant To Visit Branch Here

Miss Mamie E. Davis, National Board staff member of the Young Women's Christian Association, will arrive in Memphis on November 4th to visit the Vance Avenue Branch YWCA.

As a general consultant on administration matters concerning program, budget and personnel, Miss Davis works with leaders and staff of a types of community YWCA's in the Central and Southern Regions, from headquarters in Chicago, Ill., and Adanta Ga.

Miss Davis became administrative affairs secretary in the Community Division in 1946. For four years before that she was with the USO Division as associate regional supervisor in central, southwestern and western states, to deal with interracial problems.

Before joing the National Board staff in 1942, she served eight years as executive director with the Philadelphia YWCA's Southwest Branch; and in teen-age work in the Dallas, Texas, with a major in sociology. She has taken post-graduate studies on the same subject at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa.

On Nov. 6th, Miss Davis will be guest speaker at a meeting open to members and friends of the YWCA at the Miss. Blvd. Christian Church at 4:30 p. m.

Miss Mamie Davis